



Basic Combat Training Graduation Letter

Charlie Battery, 1-31st Field Artillery

March 20 – May 25, 2018, Class 30-18

Hello again to the Families of Charlie Battery! The Soldiers of Charlie Battery continue to prove their mettle every day. They are motivated, fit, knowledgeable and ready to graduate! However, they still have a few more weeks of rigorous training to complete.

This is the time when families are anxious to make their travel plans to see their Soldier graduate. This newsletter should provide you with information you need in order to make your travel arrangements; including information on hotels, airlines, and taxis. If not, I can always be reached by phone or email. **You may want to consider not making travel arrangements until you have heard from your Soldier that he or she will graduate.** I will ensure that your Soldier contacts you to confirm his/her eligibility. Your Soldier is not scheduled to complete his/her last graduation requirement until **May 16, 2018**. If you wish to make travel arrangements early, be aware that we cannot guarantee that your Soldier will be able to graduate until that time.

While you are here at Fort Sill, we ask that you help us preserve our training environment. Please do not smoke or use inappropriate language in or around the training area. Please wear appropriate clothing. There is no dress code, of course, but vulgar or distasteful slogans or exposures are not acceptable. Finally, please feel free to email or call if you have any questions.

GRADUATION WEEK!

Graduation week will be a very busy time for your Soldier. We have scheduled a few opportunities for him/her to spend some time with you. Soldiers in good standing are granted passes to spend some quality time with Family in or around the installation. However, a pass is a privilege that can be revoked if a Soldier is involved in any misconduct. On rare occasions this happens, and I want to let you know about this policy up front.

There will also be a Town Hall hosted by

the Commander and the First Sergeant on **May 23, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Fort Sill Conference Center located at 6045 Sheridan Road, Lawton, OK 73503. Families are highly encouraged to attend. It will be a time for Family members to meet their Soldier's leadership; ask questions, stress any concerns and give feedback on how we can do a better job communicating with Families during training.

Thursday, May 24, 2017

Family Day scheduled at **9:00 a.m.** at the Charlie Battery Drill Pad located on 5955 Rothwell St. There will be a Family Day presentation conducted by our Soldiers. During the event, we will highlight our Soldiers' achievements over the training cycle and discuss the pass policy for Thursday.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Soldiers will be released on a pass. While on a pass, Soldiers **MUST** remain within the confines of the Lawton and Fort Sill areas. This pass privilege may not be extended to non-graduates. **Soldiers must return to the battery area no later than 7:45 p.m.** in order to ensure they are present for the accountability formation.

Friday, May 25, 2018

Graduation ceremony will commence at **10:00 a.m.** inside the Cache Creek Chapel located at the 6043 Rothwell Street Fort Sill Oklahoma. During the ceremony you are invited to move about the theater and take pictures of your Soldier while seated, and as he/she crosses the graduation stage. The graduating class will be seated together during the ceremony and will not have the opportunity to socialize until its conclusion.

Following graduation, your Soldier will again be released on a pass until 7:45 p.m. **Soldiers attending Advance Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Sill will leave immediately after graduation.** Their weekend passes will be granted by the gaining unit after they in-process.

Saturday May 26, 2018

All Soldiers must travel to their next duty station via government travel arrangements. Your Soldier will depart Fort Sill on **May 26, 2018** to their next duty assignment or home. Unfortunately, we will not receive confirmation on your Soldier's exact travel time until approximately 72 hours prior to graduation. Also, Soldiers are not granted visitation or pass privileges during this time.

We are here to train your Soldier and assist you in any way possible. Please do not hesitate to let us know if we can be of any assistance. See you soon and safe travels.

POINTS OF CONTACT

If you have questions or need more information, please feel free to contact me at the following:

Battery Commander
CPT Taylor Kilmer

Phone: (580) 442-0630

Email: taylor.c.kilmer.mil@mail.mil

First Sergeant
1SG Scott U'Ren

Phone: (580) 442-0634

Email: scott.a.uren.mil@mail.mil

****NOTES****

Attached with this letter is the Visitor Access Request form. Please fill out the form in the appropriate sections and send the form to:

**Visitor Control Center
T6701 Sheridan Road Fort Sill, OK.
73503**



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*For informational purposes only.
The following should not be
considered an endorsement by the
Fort Sill Fires Center of
Excellence or the U.S. Army.*

Local Accommodations

Visitors are encouraged to visit the following link when planning their stay in Lawton and Fort Sill:

<http://lawtonfortsillchamber.com/index.php?pr=FortSillVisitors>

At this site, you are sure to find useful information pertaining to the following:

- Lodging
- Attractions
- Entertainment
- Dining
- Fort Sill

Post Lodging

Rooms are limited but offered on a space available basis. Post lodging is operated by Holiday Inn Express. If you are interested in Post Lodging, contact the **Lodging Office** at **580-442-5000**.

Ground Transportation

Jefferson Bus Lines

228 SW B Ave
580.353.1010

Lawton Area Transit

609 SW Bishop Rd
580.248.5252

AAA Cab Co

580.248.1234

Busy Bee Cab Co

580.355.7777

Checker Cab Co

580.355.5555

Peoples Cab Co

580.355.1706

580.357.9999

Radio Cab Co

580.355.1440

Safety Cab Co

580.353.3000

Yellow Cab Co

580.355.2222

Air Transportation

Air travelers are encouraged to fly into one of the following airports:

- Lawton Municipal Airport (LAW)
- Will Rogers World Airport (OKC)
- Dallas/Fort Worth

International Airport (DFW)

Air travel into LAW is available via connecting flights from DFW on American Airlines' **American Eagle** only. If you fly into DFW, Fort Sill is approximately a 3 hour drive. Oklahoma City is approximately 1.5 hours away.

Auto Rentals

A&A Auto Rental

1714 SW Lee Blvd
580.353.2691

Budget Car Rental

LAW

580.353.1417

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

6103 NW Cache Rd
580.355.0330

Hertz

LAW

580.355.6789

RV & Campground Sites

Anyone wishing to travel to graduation via RV or with a camping trailer may feel free to do so. The Lawton area offers campsites with hookups. Outdoor Adventure welcomes you.

Outdoor Adventure Center

2502 Sheridan Rd
1.800.375.8270

Please Visit Our Unit Website at:

<http://sill-www.army.mil/434/1-31/1-31c.html>

Or follow us on Facebook by searching:

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(updated weekly with newsletter & photos)